Bombay May 19. 58.

A. C. Hersey Esq.
My Dear Jr.

In compliance with your request, I drop you a few lines from this port. Altho I have been a long time in reaching the place, yet I trust the time has not been thrown away, and the intense anxiety of the few months of the commercial panic will have only a beneficial effect. By this time I suppose all Lands agree with you, that the Calcutta business is not the only one to get rich in. I am sure I do. At any rate I am of the opinion, that Bombay will make the fortune of some

people yet. But it is hard you know to convince people that a new road is the best, after wearing out so many pairs of shoes on the old. I believe sincerely & truly that before 10 years Bombay will be far ahead of Calcutta, and will do most of the Boston New York business of India. It is not the little place, or town we are too apt to think it at home, it has a population of over 700,000! and no less than 70 different languages are spoken. The exports of cotton in 1839 were 58 cwt. in 1857 over 365,000 cwt! & every thing else has increased in the same ratio. There is some Saltpetre for quality, plenty of splendid Linseed,

rape, Teel, Gingelly, Gums, Dyes
madder, Cotton Wool, (The last
article can at present be laid
down very low with you,) Hides
Skins, Pepper, Coffee, Coir
Rope Yarn, Castor Oil & Cocoa-
nuts do, and in fact a little
of <u>everything</u>. Now what
I want you to do is this;
take one of your small Barks,
say that will take from 5 to
7 or 800 Tons of goods, & send
her along to me loaded with
domestics, naval Stores &c -
& lumber. Spars & Tanker no-
tions, & orders to load her
home for you &c. And
depend upon it you will
have no reason to complain
of me. Judging from the
manner in which you have
formerly done business, you
could not have been misled

up in the recent troubles. I am
glad to hope, that you will
agree with me that now is
the time to act. The young
Deacon has just had the
audacity here, & she did splen-
didly. If sometime in the
course of conversation with
them, you can bring it in acci-
dentally, will you please say
a good word to them for me?
And indeed to any one whom
you can influence, to do this
business with me. I have
a very rich Parson to back
me up, so there is no danger
from enemies being unattended
in case of accident to me.
Kindly remember me to Mr.
Beach, Parker Hunter, and any
other of my old friends who
may be interested enough to ask
after me. With my best regards
to yourself & wife, I hope soon to
be doing a large business for you.
I remain, Sincerely Truly, Wm. F. Stearns.